



Growing By Leaps and Bounds

Martha Jones School - Westwood, MA

Matt Kuklantz, Principal

**Martha Jones Motto:
Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.**

[Westwood Public Schools](#) | [Martha Jones School](#) | [Martha Jones PTO](#)

Issue 12 - February 16, 2024

Principal's Message

MJ Community,

As part of our celebration of Black History Month, Valerie Tutson (of Arts for Learning Massachusetts) joined us last week to present Tales from African Traditions. The students learned to sing songs in three different languages: English, Zulu, ASL and heard folk tales of Anansi the spider and Kwakadaja. It was an active and engaging presentation. Thank you to our PTO for all of their support with the enrichment activities.

Enjoy the break!

Matt Kuklantz
Martha Jones
Principal

Girls on the Run

Dear Parents of Girls in Grade 3 - 5,

We are excited to announce that Girls on the Run is coming to Martha Jones Elementary this Spring!! Girls on the Run is much more than a running program. It is designed to support girls'

physical and emotional health and growth. Girls have fun making connections and meeting new friends. Girls get outside, set goals, and move more. Girls learn intentional decision making, how to use their voice, and become confident leaders.

Led by dedicated volunteer coaches, Amy Spiegel and Janine Tateosian, practices will be Monday and Wednesdays from 3:30 - 5:00, EXCEPT on half-day Wednesdays which will be from 12:30 - 2:00, and girls should bring a lunch. In the event of rain, we will have NO practice that day due to extended day.

The season will culminate with a celebratory 5K on Saturday, June 1st.

An email will be sent on Monday, February 19 with information about registration. Note that we have 23 slots available, registration will close after that has been reached.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Amy Spiegel at amyspiegs@yahoo.com

Important Upcoming Events

Mon. Feb. 19-Fri. Feb 23 - February Recess

Mon. Feb. 26 - School Resumes

Fri. Mar. 1 - Gr. 5 Enrichment, Top Secret Science, Space

Tues. Mar. 5 - All School Enrichment, Author Visit, [Jef Czekaj](#)

Wed. Mar. 6 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Thurs. Mar. 7 - K Enrichment, Curious Creatures & Gr. 4 Top Secret Science, Forces & Motion

Sat. Mar. 9 - MJ PTO Parent Social

Fri. Mar. 15 - Gr. 5 Field Trip

Wed. Mar. 20 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Fri. Mar. 22 - Gr. 5 Enrichment, Top Secret Science, States of Matter

Fri. Mar. 22 - K Field Trip, Discovery Museum

Fri. Mar. 29 - Good Friday, No School

Tues. Apr. 2 - ELA MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed. Apr. 3 - Early Release at 12:00pm, Parent Teacher Conferences

Thurs. Apr. 4 - ELA MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed. Apr. 10 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Fri. Apr. 12 - Gr. 5 [Chorus](#) Concert

Mon. Apr. 15 - Fri. Apr. 19 - April Recess - No School

Wed. Apr. 24 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Tues. May 7 - Math MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Wed. May 8 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Thurs. May 9 - Math MCAS (gr. 3, 4, 5)

Fri. May 10 - [Shaw Pong Liu](#) - Exploring China: "The Middle Kingdom" through Music and Story

Tues. May 14 - STE MCAS (Gr. 5 only)

Wed. May 15 - Gr. 1 Enrichment - Rainforest Reptiles

Thurs. May 16 - STE MCAS (Gr. 5 only)

Thurs. May 16 - [Gr. 3 Body Safety Theater](#)

Wed. May 22 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Mon. May 27 - Memorial Day - No School

Tues. May 28 - Gr. 3 Enrichment, Colonial Trades, Making Community Work

Wed. May 29 - Gr. 2 Enrichment, CT. Childrens Museum, Animal Adaptations and Habitats

Thurs. May 30 - Gr. 4 Enrichment, Discovery Museum, Sound Waves

Mon. June 3 - All School Enrichment, Author Visit, [Daryl Cobb](#)

Wed. June 5 - Early Release at 12:00pm

Wed. June 5 - 5th Grade Band Concert WHS (Begins 7:00 pm, 5:30 Student Arrival)

Thurs. June 6 - K Enrichment, Discovery Museum, Bubbles

Thurs. June 13 - Students' Last Day (Tentative)

MCAS Dates

We are planning to conduct MCAS testing on the following dates:

April 2 and April 4 - ELA (Gr. 3, 4, 5)

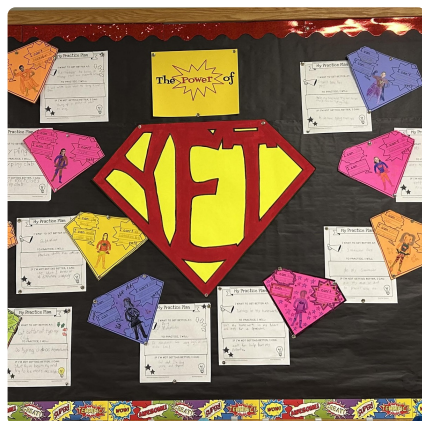
May 7 and May 9 - Math (Gr. 3, 4, 5)

May 14 and May 16 - STE (Gr. 5 only)

News from the MJ Classroom's



News from 3Lu (Mrs. Luskin)



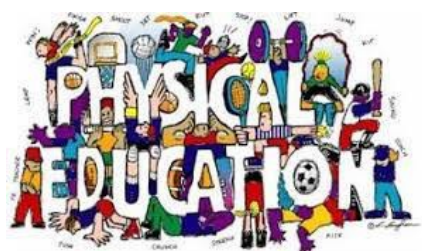
The Brainiacs in Mrs. Luskin's room are showing love for themselves by making goals and plans and by showing kindness to one another.

News from KF (Mrs. Fader)



In Kindergarten, students have been working on managing difficult emotions through positive self talk. We read *Pete the Cat and the Magic Sunglasses* and students helped Pete and his friends practice positive self-talk when they faced different challenges throughout the book. Some positive self-talk ideas that students came up with were, "I can keep trying", "I am a problem solver" and "I believe in myself". Students picked what phrase they would say when faced with a challenge and added it to our Pete the Cat craft show the importance of positive self talk.

News from PE (Mr. Foley)



What's Happening in Physical Education!

The Martha Jones students have been very busy learning about Fitness! This unit introduced fitness concepts such as: Stretching, target heart rate, proper form and safety, through circuit training, fitness challenges, and fitness games. These activities emphasized the importance of keeping physically fit. The students also learned about the importance of keeping their heart and other body muscles strong! A variety of highly active games were introduced to teach and re-emphasize fitness concepts. The kids had a blast! Learning to enjoy physical fitness activities is one the most important motivational factors for staying physically fit!

Best,
Pat Foley

News from the Math Office -Ms. Size



In grade 1 we have been using different contexts for thinking about the number 10. We have especially been focusing on "10s buddies", which are 2 numbers that sum to 10. We read a book called [Monster Math Picnic](#) where the 10 monsters do two different things on each page spread, thereby decomposing into 10s addends by page. We then explored how we can represent 10s buddies on our ten fingers using cubes to show the parts.



MARTHA JONES SCHOOL

PTO

Be Kind. Be Curious. Be Courageous.

PTO News

MJ PTO Upcoming Dates

Get ready to mark your calendars - here are some of the events happening at Martha Jones in the upcoming months! Scroll down for detailed information about these events.

- **March 5th** - PTO Meeting in the Martha Jones Library @ 7pm
- **March 8th - 15th** - Read-A-Thon
- **March 9th** - Parent Social - Rewind to the 90's Party
- **March 12th** - Book Fair with Park Street Books!
- **April 11th** - STEM Fair

- **April 26th** - Family Movie Night - Save the Date!
- **May 10th** - International Night Celebration

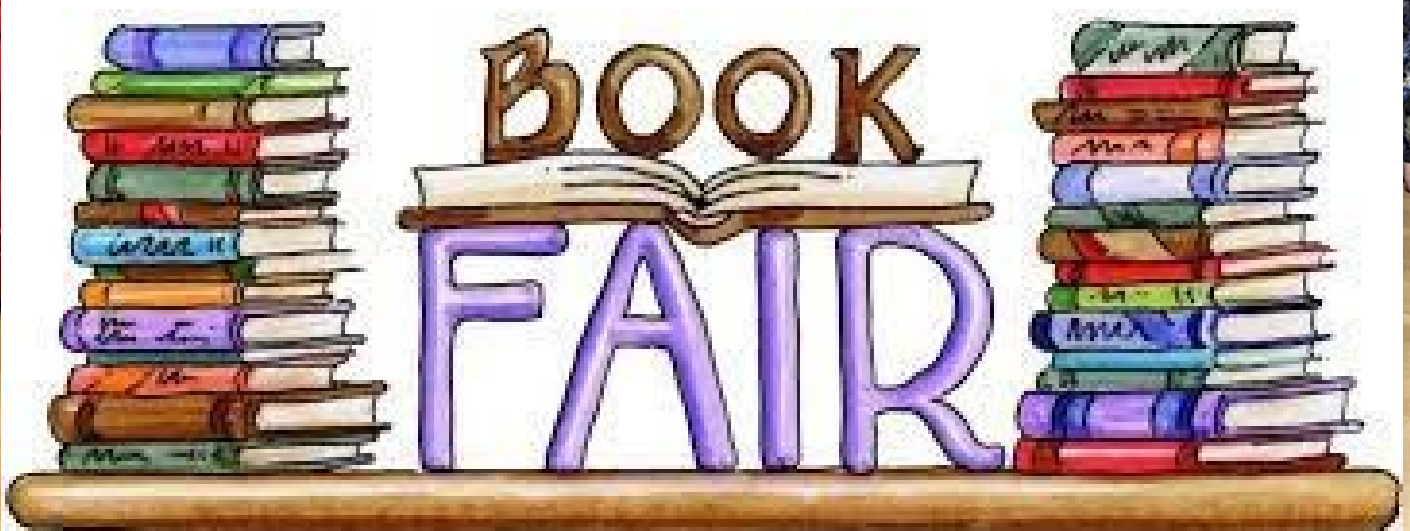


MJS Parent Social

Let's rewind to the 90s! You are invited to the totally rad Martha Jones PTO Parent Social on Saturday, March 9th from 7-11pm. Get ready for non-stop dancing to the incredible tunes of the [Up All Night Band!](#) Leave the kids at home and join us for a night of fun with other parents. This party is open to all and not exclusive to Martha Jones parents, so bring your friends along! Tickets are \$50 per person in advance or \$60 at the door. Buy your admissions and raffle tickets [here!](#)



Remember, the grade-level with the highest number of parent tickets represented will be awarded a comfy, cozy **pajama day!**



Book Fair & Read-a-Thon

Martha Jones students are invited to participate in this year's Book Fair and Read-a-Thon!

Book Fair

Park Street Books is back for MJS's Book Fair on Tuesday, March 12th. Classes will shop the Fair at designated times (stay tuned for a volunteer sign-up sheet!).



Read-a-Thon

Beginning **Friday, March 8th through Friday, March 15th**, students are invited to participate in our annual Read-a-Thon. The event is designed to encourage children to read beyond their current daily amounts and team up with the entire school to stress the importance and fun in reading. Students in the classes that log the most hours/books throughout the one-week period will receive individual \$10.00 gift cards to Park Street Books. The teachers in those classes will also receive a gift certificate. There will be one winning class for grades K & 1, grades 2 & 3, and for grades 4 & 5. More details to follow!

Student Logo Competition

Great news! We have decided to extend the deadline for our student logo competition, ensuring that children have ample time to unleash their creative minds! This is the perfect opportunity for students to showcase their artistic talents and create something truly remarkable. Submit your entries before the new deadline of **March 15th!**



International Night Student Logo Competition



STEM FAIR

The Martha Jones STEM Fair will be held on Thursday, April 11th. Encourage your little scientists to start thinking about a project - registration will open after the February break!

Family Movie Night

Mark your calendars for the highly anticipated return of Martha Jones movie night on **April 29th from 5:30-8:30pm!** Get ready for an evening filled with outdoor games, prizes, music, and a captivating movie screening inside the school gym. Kids will be treated to complimentary popcorn, snacks, and refreshing water. Don't forget to bring your family and siblings along for this unforgettable event!



International Night

Celebrating & showcasing cultures from various countries around the world!

Save the date! On Friday, May 10th from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, Martha Jones School is hosting its first-ever International Night Celebration, and you're invited! Join us for a night of fun, food, and festivities as we celebrate the diverse cultures that make our school community so special. From exciting performances to delicious international cuisine, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Mark your calendars and get ready for a memorable evening of togetherness and global exploration. We can't wait to see you there!

Sign-up [here](#) to host a table, share food, music, photos, or a performance!

BIRTHDAY BOOKS & LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Don't miss out on the opportunity to participate in the [PTO Birthday Book Program](#)! Ms. Swimming has selected some fantastic books that students have requested, but the Martha Jones library does not currently have. During their birthday month, participating children are invited to the library to pick a brand new book from this collection. A bookplate commemorating your child's birthday will be placed inside the front cover and they will be the very first student to borrow this book! Once they've finished reading it, the book will be returned to the library's collection, where it can be enjoyed for years to come. The cost of this program is \$15 per student.



[Sign-up](#) as a **Library Volunteer**! Mrs. Swinning needs one parent per class to help check-in, shelve, and check-out books. This is a great opportunity to get into the school, interact with your child's class, and support the library program!

WEBSITE & DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Log in or register on the [PTO website](#) to stay updated on all PTO events, receive important PTO emails, and stay connected with Room Parent communications. You will also be able to update your information, contribute to our Annual Contribution Drive, purchase Birthday Books, and volunteer for various PTO committees or in the Library!

Many of our committees are still looking for volunteers. Volunteering for a committee is a great way to get involved, meet other parents, and support our school community! [Sign-up today!](#)

MARTHA JONES PTO FACEBOOK GROUP

Did you know Martha Jones PTO has its own Facebook group page? Join the Facebook group to get the latest PTO news and updates delivered right to your news feed! Click [here](#) to join!

Martha Jones PTO Board 2023-2024

[Katy DiMare](#), Co-President

[Kristen Donahue](#), Co-President

[Kirsten Bulger](#), Co-Treasurer

[Kristen Gautreau](#), Co-Treasurer

[Mary Jason](#), Co-Secretary

[Priscilla Stephen](#), Co-Secretary

[Megan Mahan](#), Co-Social Media

[Katie Collins](#), Co-Social Media

Martha Jones PTO Meeting Dates SY2023 - 2024

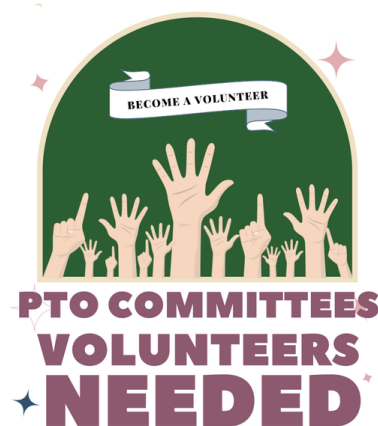
March 5, 2023, 7pm

May 7, 2023, 7pm

PTO CONTACT FOR EVENTS, NOTICES:

If you have an event or notice for our PTO update, please email it to:

PTO Co-Secretary - [Mary Jason](#), [Priscilla Stephan](#)



District & Community News You Can Use

SEPAC

Please see the [Westwood Special Education Parents Action Committee \(SEPAC\) website](#) with all upcoming events.



SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 2024 Westwood SEPAC Events

We hope you'll join us! For the most up-to-date event details and to RSVP, visit www.westwoodsepac.org/events

- Tuesday, 3/5: Morning Coffee with Sue Maselli, Director of Student Services, 9:30-11AM @ Muffin House Cafe
- Friday, 3/15: Friday, Parent Night Out! 7:00PM @ Conrads in Norwood
- Wednesday, 3/20: SEPAC General Meeting, 7:30-9:00PM @ the Westwood Public Library or on Zoom



School Calendar

[Click the link](#) for the Westwood 2023-2024 school calendar.

Links to [Westwood Community Resources](#). The link will take you to the Interface Referral Service for Mental Health Supports. This service helps to facilitate access to outpatient services. Additionally, on the page there are links to Westwood Youth and Family Services, the Food Pantry, Council on Aging, Westwood Community Chest, and many more.

Westwood Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation.

If you need this document translated, please call the Westwood Public Schools' Student Services Department at 781-326-7500 ext. 1346 or email your request to lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us. Thank you.

如果您需要翻译本文档，请致电Westwood的公立学校的学生服务部在781 326-7500 ext. 1346 或电子邮件您的要求 lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us 谢谢你。

ext. 7500-326 781 اذا بحاجة الى هذه الوثيقة المترجمة ، يرجى الاتصال على إدارة المدارس العامة ويستودود 'الخدمات الطلابية في 781 326-7500 ext. لك. lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us كننتشكر أو على البريد الإلكتروني الخاص بك 1346

Если вам нужен этот документ переводится, пожалуйста, позвоните Вествудгосударственных школах "Студенческие службы Департамента по 781 326-7500 ext. 1346 или по электронной почте запрос на lprouffe@westwood.k12.ma.us Спасибо.



Matthew Kuklantz

Matthew is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

